

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A color image forming ~~device~~device, comprising:
 - a frame including a pair of side frames;
 - an elongated intermediate image transfer member running substantially in a vertical direction and positioned between the pair of side frames, the intermediate image transfer member having a first side;
 - a plurality of electrostatic latent image bearing bodies aligned substantially in the vertical direction and positioned in confrontation with the first side of the intermediate image transfer member, each electrostatic latent image bearing body having a latent image bearing surface;
 - a plurality of chargers that charge the latent image bearing surface of corresponding ones of the electrostatic latent image bearing bodies;
 - a plurality of exposure units that expose charged surfaces of corresponding ones of the electrostatic latent image bearing bodies; and
 - a plurality of developing units each including a developing agent bearing body disposed in confrontation with a corresponding one of the plurality of electrostatic latent image bearing bodies and housing therein ~~developing agents~~a developing agent of ~~different colors, at least a predetermined color~~, each developing unit being assembled in ~~each a~~corresponding process cartridge, each process cartridge being detachably positioned at a side facing the first side of the intermediate image transfer member and moved in an attachment/detachment direction toward and away from the first side of the intermediate image transfer unit for attachment and detachment of the process cartridge with respect to the pair of side frames.

2. (Original) The color image forming device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the electrostatic latent image bearing bodies extend in an axial direction between the pair of side frames, each exposure unit comprising an LED array extending in the axial direction and fixedly secured to the frame.

3. (Currently Amended) The color image forming device as claimed in claim 2, wherein each process cartridge at least assembles therein ~~the developing a developing unit~~ and ~~the an~~ electrostatic latent image bearing body, each LED array facing a corresponding electrostatic latent image bearing body of the each electrostatic latent image bearing ~~body~~ bodies in such a direction that the electrostatic latent image bearing body is moved away from the LED array during detachment of the process cartridge from the pair of side frames.

4. (Currently Amended) The color image forming device as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a plurality of developing agent holding units positioned beside ~~corresponding a corresponding~~ one of the electrostatic latent image bearing bodies, each developing agent holding unit temporarily holding residual developing agent on the electrostatic latent image bearing body and for returning the held residual developing agent to the developing agent bearing body during a predetermined cycle other than an exposing cycle.

5. (Currently Amended) The color image forming device as claimed in claim 1, wherein each process cartridge at least assembles therein ~~the developing a developing unit~~ and ~~the electrostatic an electrostatic~~ latent image bearing body, each charger being fixed to the frame in such a position that each electrostatic latent image bearing body is moved away from the charger during detachment of the process cartridge from the pair of side frames.

6. (Original) The color image forming device as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

a supply tray for supplying an image recording medium to the intermediate image transfer member, the supply tray being detachable from the frame in the attachment/detachment direction; and

a discharge tray for receiving an image recording medium formed with a color image, the image recoding medium being discharged onto the discharge tray in the attachment/detachment direction perpendicular to the running direction of the intermediate image transfer member.

7. (Original) The color image forming device as claimed in claim 6, further comprising an operation panel with a variety of operation buttons, the operation panel being attached to the frame to enable access to the operation buttons from the attachment/detachment direction.

8. (Currently Amended) The color image forming device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the electrostatic latent image bearing bodies extend in an axial direction, and further comprising:

a plurality of cleaning ~~units that collect~~ units, each cleaning unit collecting developing agent remaining on ~~corresponding a~~ corresponding one of the electrostatic latent image bearing bodies, each cleaning unit being disposed externally of ~~corresponding a~~ corresponding process cartridge, and each cleaning unit including a transport unit for transporting collected developing agent in the axial direction of the electrostatic latent image bearing body.

9. (Original) The color image forming device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the developing agent comprises polymerized toner produced by suspension polymerization process.

10. (Currently Amended) A color image forming device comprising:
a frame;

an elongated intermediate image transfer member running substantially in a vertical direction, the intermediate image transfer member having a first ~~side~~ running downwardly; side;

a plurality of electrostatic latent image bearing bodies aligned substantially in the vertical direction and positioned in confrontation with the first side of the intermediate image transfer member, each electrostatic latent image bearing body having a latent image bearing surface;

a plurality of ~~developing units~~ units, each developing unit comprising a developing agent bearing body disposed in confrontation with a corresponding one of the plurality of electrostatic latent image bearing bodies and housing therein ~~developing agents~~ a developing agent of different colors, a predetermined color, and a layer thickness regulation member in contact with the developing agent bearing body and positioned below the developing agent bearing body for regulating a thickness of a layer of the developing agent formed thereon, the developing agent comprising a non-magnetic single component type developing agent;

a plurality of ~~chargers~~ chargers, each charger positioned in confrontation with the latent image bearing surface of ~~corresponding ones of the~~ a corresponding electrostatic latent image bearing ~~bodies~~ body for charging the latent image bearing surface; and

a plurality of exposure ~~units that expose~~ units, each exposure unit exposing the charged ~~surfaces~~ surface of a corresponding ~~ones of the~~ electrostatic latent image bearing ~~bodies~~ body.

11. (Original) The color image forming device as claimed in claim 10, wherein the developing agent comprises polymerized toner produced by suspension polymerization process.

12. (Currently Amended) The color image forming device as claimed in claim 10, further comprising a plurality of developing agent holding ~~units~~units, each developing agent holding unit positioned beside ~~corresponding one of the~~a corresponding electrostatic latent image bearing ~~bodies,~~ body, each developing agent holding unit temporarily holding residual developing agent on the corresponding electrostatic latent image bearing body and for returning the held residual developing agent to the developing agent bearing body during a predetermined cycle other than an exposing cycle.

13. (Original) The color image forming device as claimed in claim 12, wherein each developing agent holding unit comprises a cleaning roller positioned below the electrostatic latent image bearing body, the cleaning roller holding the residual toner remaining on the electrostatic latent image bearing surface after the image transfer from the electrostatic latent image bearing body to the intermediate image transfer member.

14. (Currently Amended) The color image forming device as claimed in claim 10, further comprising:

a supply tray for supplying an image recording medium to the intermediate image transfer member, and

a discharge tray for receiving an image recording medium formed with a color image, the intermediate image transfer member, ~~a plurality~~the plurality of the electrostatic latent image bearing bodies, and ~~a plurality~~the plurality of the developing units being positioned below the discharge tray but positioned above the supply tray.

15. (Currently Amended) The color image forming device as claimed in claim 14, wherein the frame comprises a pair of side frames, the elongated intermediate image transfer member being positioned between the pair of side frames; and

wherein each developing unit is ~~assembled in each~~part of a process cartridge, each process cartridge being positioned at a side facing the first side of the intermediate

image transfer member and movable in an attachment/detachment direction toward and away from the first side of the intermediate image transfer member for attachment and detachment of the process cartridge with respect to the pair of side frames.

16. (Original) The color image forming device as claimed in claim 10, further comprising:

a secondary image transfer device positioned immediately below the intermediate image transfer member for transferring an image from the intermediate image transfer member onto an image recording medium;

a fixing device for fixing the image onto the image recording medium after the image has been transferred from the intermediate image transfer member onto the image recording medium; and

a reverse mechanism for reversing a surface of the image recording medium to provide another image onto the identical image recording medium, the reverse mechanism being connected to a downstream of the fixing device and to an upstream of the secondary image transfer device by way of a reverse print pathway extending below the intermediate image transfer member.

17. (Original) The color image forming device as claimed in claim 15, further comprising:

a secondary image transfer device positioned immediately below the intermediate image transfer member for transferring an image from the intermediate image transfer member onto an image recording medium;

a fixing device for fixing the image onto the image recording medium after the image has been transferred from the intermediate image transfer member onto the image recording medium; and

a reverse mechanism for reversing a surface of the image recording medium to provide another image onto the identical image recording medium, the reverse mechanism being connected to a downstream of the fixing device and to an upstream of the secondary image transfer device by way of a reverse print pathway extending below the intermediate image transfer member, the pathway being also positioned at a side confronting a second side of the intermediate image transfer member, the second side being opposite to the first side.

18. (Currently Amended) A color image forming ~~device~~ device, comprising:

a frame;

an elongated intermediate image transfer member running substantially in a vertical direction, the intermediate image transfer member having a first ~~side~~ running downwardly; side;

a plurality of electrostatic latent image bearing bodies aligned substantially in the vertical direction and positioned in confrontation with the first side of the intermediate image transfer member, each electrostatic latent image bearing body having a latent image bearing surface;

a plurality of developing units each comprising a developing agent bearing body disposed in confrontation with a corresponding one of the plurality of electrostatic latent image bearing bodies and housing therein ~~developing agents~~ a developing agent of ~~different colors~~; a predetermined color;

a supply tray for supplying an image recording medium to the intermediate image transfer member; and

a discharge tray for receiving an image recording medium formed with a color image, the intermediate image transfer member, ~~a plurality~~ the plurality of the electrostatic latent image bearing bodies, and ~~a plurality~~ the plurality of the developing units being positioned below the discharge tray but positioned above the supply tray.

19. (Currently Amended) The color image forming device as claimed in claim 18, wherein the frame comprises a pair of side frames, the elongated intermediate image transfer member being positioned between the pair of side frames; and

wherein each developing unit is ~~assembled in each part of a~~ process cartridge, each process cartridge being detachably positioned at a side facing the first side of the intermediate transfer member and moved in an attachment/detachment direction toward and away from the first side of the intermediate image transfer member for attachment and detachment of the process cartridge with respect to the pair of side frames.

20. (Original) The color image forming device as claimed in claim 19, further comprising:

a secondary image transfer device positioned immediately below the intermediate image transfer member for transferring an image from the intermediate image transfer member onto an image recording medium;

a fixing device for fixing the image onto the image recording medium after the image has been transferred from the intermediate image transfer member onto the image recording medium; and

a reverse mechanism for reversing a surface of the image recording medium to provide another image onto a reverse surface of the identical image recording medium, the reverse mechanism being connected to a downstream of the fixing device and to an upstream of the secondary image transfer device by way of a reverse print pathway extending below the intermediate image transfer member.

21. (Currently Amended) A color image forming ~~device~~ device, comprising:

a frame;

an elongated intermediate image transfer member running substantially in a vertical direction, the intermediate image transfer member having a first ~~side~~ running downwardly; side;

a plurality of electrostatic latent image bearing bodies aligned substantially in the vertical direction and positioned in confrontation with the first side of the intermediate image transfer member;

a plurality of developing units each comprising a developing agent bearing body disposed in confrontation with a corresponding one of the plurality of electrostatic latent image bearing bodies and housing therein ~~developing agents~~ a developing agent of different colors; a predetermined color;

a secondary image transfer device positioned immediately below the intermediate image transfer member for transferring an image from the intermediate image transfer member onto an image recording medium;

a fixing device for fixing the image onto the image recording medium after the image has been transferred from the intermediate image transfer member onto the image recording medium; and

a reverse mechanism for reversing a surface of the image recording medium to provide another image onto a reverse surface of the identical image recording medium, the reverse mechanism being connected to a downstream of the fixing device and to an upstream of the secondary image transfer device by way of a reverse print pathway extending below the intermediate image transfer member.